



Hoover Case 2574

Patent Application

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Morgan)
Serial No.: 09/955,713) Examiner: Theresa T.
Filed: September 18, 2001) Snider
For: Nozzle Assembly Removal) Art Unit: 1744
Arrangement)
)

**Information Disclosure Statement
Under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(B)**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Madam:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97 encouraging the filing of an Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicants hereby submit the following in compliance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 CFR 1.56.

Information or art known to the Applicants and having an extent of relevance to the present application has been listed on Form PTO-1449 attached hereto. The Applicants have employed Form PTO-1449 for the purposes of convenience of the Office and the Examiner.

No representation is made that the information is pertinent to the claimed subject matter, that the information is non-cumulative, or that the information represents the only or the best information. The Applicants do not admit that any of the information they have provided is necessarily prior to their invention but rather that it is information of which they are aware and that they believe should be provided to the Office in fulfillment of their duty of

disclosure. Any question that may arise regarding priority of a specific reference shall be resolved during prosecution.

Applicant also would like to bring to the attention of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and the Examiner assigned to the above referenced application the existence of the following patented and co-pending cases which are related to various aspects of the same technology.

Patent/Publ. No.	Serial No.	Filed	Attorney Docket
D469,935	29/173,944	9/12/01	2576
D456,964	29/140,889	4/25/01	2542
D469,227	29/159,336	4/25/01	2542A
D469,590	29/159,335	4/25/01	2542B
D457,278	29/140,890	4/25/01	2543
D468,876	29/159,268	4/25/01	2543A
D468,875	29/159,267	4/25/01	2543B
6,629,332	09/957,711	9/18/01	2572
6,647,578	09/955,702	9/18/01	2571
6,640,386	09/955,725	9/18/01	2544
20030051309 A1	09/956,297	9/18/01	2575

These patents and co-pending applications are not to be construed as prior art.

Respectfully submitted,
The Hoover Company

By: Brett A. Schenck
Brett A. Schenck
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on this 16 day of April 2004.

Pamela S. Grapes
Pamela S. Grapes



PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 2

Complete if Known	
Application Number	09/955,713
Filing Date	September 18, 2001
First Named Inventor	Jeffery A. Morgan
Patent Unit	1744
Examiner Name	Theresa T. Snider
Attorney Docket Number	2574

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

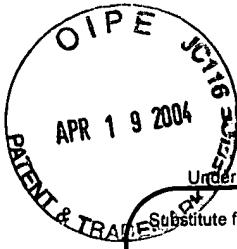
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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***EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. **¹** Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). **²** See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. **³** Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). **⁴** For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. **⁵** Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. **⁶** Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

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APR 19 2004

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 2

of 2

Attorney Docket Number 2574

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Filing Date	September 18, 2001
First Named Inventor	Jeffery A. Morgan
Art Unit	1744
Examiner Name	Theresa T. Snider
Attorney Docket Number	2574

NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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